Music Biographies

Contributed by Tuesday, 16 January 2007 Last Updated Tuesday, 16 January 2007

Billy Joel: The Life & Times of an Angry Young Man

- RC 61511

Hank Bordowitz

Traces the life and career of the songwriter/pianist, highlighting Joel's childhood in Long Island, his three marriages, and alcohol problems. I Feel Good

- RC 60883

James Brown

Autobiography of the outspoken "Godfather of Soul." Brown describes his childhood in the segregated south, personal life, legal troubles, and career in the music business.Man in Black

- RC 58372

Johnny Cash

Candid autobiography in which the legendary country-western singer revisits the "good and bad times" of his life and career. Get Happy: the Life of Judy Garland

- RC 49967

Gerald Clarke

Traces her family roots, marriages, lovers, and children until her death at age forty-seven. Girl Singer: an Autobiography - RC 49352

Rosemary Clooney

Singer discusses her career in music, love affairs and famous friends, marriage and five children with philandering movie star Jose Ferrer, and her 1968 pill-induced breakdown. Angel On My Shoulder: an Autobiography

- RC 52418

Natalie Cole

Recounts Cole's privileged childhood as the daughter of Nat King Cole, her marriages, substance abuse, and difficulties with her mother. Old Gods Almost Dead: the 40-year Odyssey of the Rolling Stones

- RC 58794

Stephen Davis

In-depth biography of the legendary English band that refused to fade into rock history. Chronicles: Volume 1

- RC 59429

Bob Dylan

First of a three-volume memoir by the music legend recalling his early days in Greenwich Village, transient loves, lasting friendships, and experiences in New Orleans and Woodstock. Swing, Swing, Swing: The Life & Times of Benny Goodman - RC 60340

Ross Firestone

Biography of jazz clarinetist recounts his career as a child prodigy in Chicago, early gigs during the depression era, and success with the "big band" sound. Bing Crosby: a Pocketful of Dreams, the Early Years 1903-1940

- RC 53111

Gary Giddins

Examines Crosby's family history and work up to World War II. Includes discography and filmography. According to the Rolling Stones

- RC 57396

Mick Jagger, Keith Richards, Charlie Watts…[et al.]

Reminiscences by members of "The Stones," tracing their British roots and rise to international fame beginning in the 1960's. Hank Williams, So Lonesome

- RC 58607

George William Koon

Documents country singer's rise from Depression-era Alabama to Nashville stardom and examines the mystery surrounding his death.Little Miss Dynamite: the Life and Times of Brenda Lee

- RC 53911

Brenda Lee

Reminisces about the entertainers Lee has known, from her early days in rock 'n' roll through country music superstardom. Honky Tonk Angel: the Intimate Story of Patsy Cline

- RC 58571

Ellis Nassour

From interviews with Cline's family and friends, the author details the performer's trailblazing career, dynamic relationships, and untimely death in a plane crash. Luther: The Life and Longing of Luther Vandross

- RC 59837

Craig Seymour

Biography of the rhythm and blues singer/songwriter/producer, following his career from the 1970's through a devastating stroke in 2003 at age fifty-one. The Beatles: the Biography

- RC 61584

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Bob Spitz

Music journalist pens a history of the British rock 'n' roll band that launched a cultural revolution. Sinatra: the Life

- RC 61890

Anthony Summers

Documents Sinatra's childhood, career, marriages, struggles with alcohol, complex relationships with women, and Mafia connections. Trouble man: the life and Death of Marvin Gaye

- RC 52126

Steve Turner

Traces the family and professional life of the soul singer, including his problems with finances, drugs, and a rocky relationship with his father.Long Ago and Far Away: James Taylor, His Life and Music

- RC 57795

Timothy White

Chronicles the life of singer-songwriter James Taylor from his Scottish roots to the 1990's, including his marriages and troubling substance abuse.

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